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SOURCE Il Corriere della Somalia

STOCKHOLM REPORT PLACES
BERIYA IN HIDING IN USSR

Stockholm, 30 September -- Beriya has escaped from the locality to which he had been transferred in the first part of August while awaiting trial but has not yet fled from the country.

The news of his escape is supported by the following: (1) the announce-ment by Kruglov, Minister of Internal Affairs USSR, of the arrest of police of-ficials; (2) the absence of Kruglov from all public meetings; and (3) the fact that prosecutor Rukienko, who replaced Safonov at the preliminary hearings, has in turn been replaced by three judges -- Dalinov, Barzas, and Balayen. Both Safonov and Rukienko may be responsible for Beriya's escape because they may have permitted Beriya to contact a friend, called as a witness at the prelimi-nary hearings.

Very little is known of Beriya's escape. After a week's confinement in the dungeons of the Lubyanka prison at Moscow, Beriya was secretly transferred to an unknown, distant locality. Only Rukienko and Safonov were authorized to talk to Beriya, who was guarded by high MVD officials, personally selected by Kruglov.

Beriya's escape was not a great surprise because everyone credited him with sufficient astuteness to have taken all necessary precautions before clash-ing with Malenkov.

The theory that Beriya is still in the USSR is supported by the interview of the three American university journalists with the editors of Komsomol'skaya Pravda. The editors, in reply to a question about Beriya, said: "It is absurd to think that Beriya is no longer in the USSR."

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